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Extension Service REVIEW

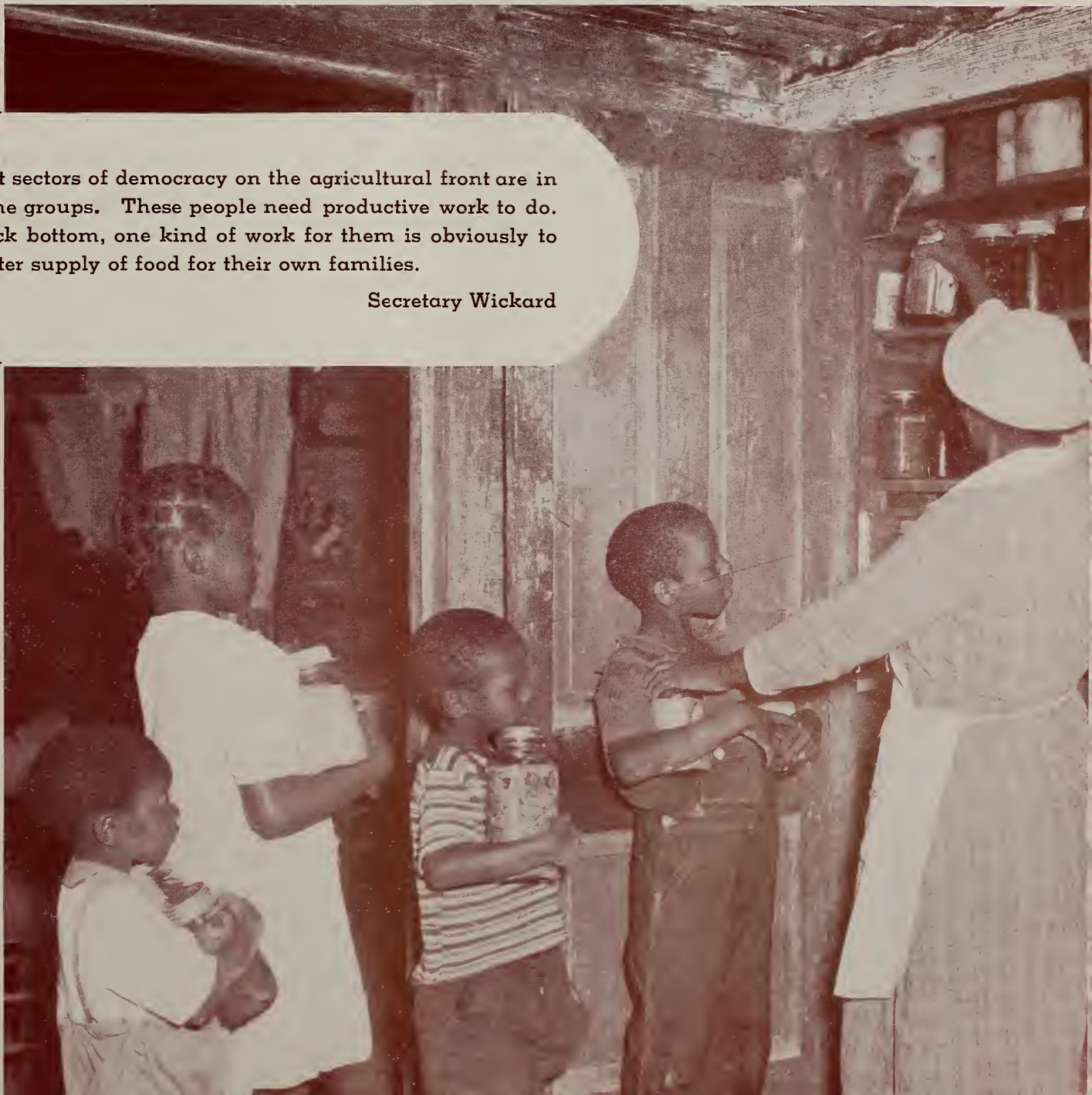
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BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS LIBRARY


The weakest sectors of democracy on the agricultural front are in the low-income groups. These people need productive work to do. Starting at rock bottom, one kind of work for them is obviously to produce a better supply of food for their own families.

Secretary Wickard



A Platform for the New Year

CLAUDE R. WICKARD, Secretary of Agriculture

 The call this winter is for speed and more speed in spreading understanding of democracy through group discussion among farm people.

Every one of us needs a better understanding of democracy. Every one of us needs to try harder to make democracy work in the daily life of America.

All of us need to think democracy through. All of us need to work at democracy and make it a living force. As I see it, helping agriculture do this is today the double duty of every public servant.

American democracy will mean different things to different people. We wouldn't have it otherwise. The democratic way of life gives the other fellow room to disagree. But there are a few central fundamentals in the democratic ideal of every American. We hold sacred the civil liberties. Within the limits of decency and fairness everyone may speak and write and vote and worship as he thinks best. We hold also that the opportunities in our economy to do useful work shall be open to everyone in proportion to his ability to contribute skill or strength or ideas. And we hold that in our democracy the people shall have a voice in making the decisions that affect their own welfare.

Faith Justified by Works

These are the ancient faiths which must be justified by works if we are to make our defenses impregnable because they are manned by a unified people.

Starting from these basic premises, the people have got to think out for themselves their own schemes of democratic behavior. Thinking is terribly hard work. But there is a contagion about thinking. Like most work, it goes best when you work in a crew. The discussion method of thinking things out together trains the mental muscles and makes the job go further.

I charge you as an extension worker to put in the front rank of work to be done in the coming months, the job of helping our adult citizens and our young citizens educate themselves in the essentials of American democracy. I urge you to throw all of your resources into this work. Help your fellow-citizens to think democracy through and make democracy work.

We will support you to the best of our ability. Director Wilson and I are counseling with outstanding scholars in the field of democratic ideas and outstanding leaders in group-discussion methods. We plan to make available material which will be helpful in conducting discussions and training leaders.

Special attention is being given 4-H boys and girls for self-education in democracy. Here is the most important group of all. Give the boys and girls the chance in their formative years to understand true democracy and its functioning and they will grapple it to their hearts with hoops of steel. They will not suffer the doubts and fears and hesitations that have bedeviled our generation. For our fears about democracy spring from the thing that always inspires fear—lack of knowledge. Let's make 4-H Club work help these farm youngsters become tough-minded about democracy, and skillful in democratic living, as well as tough-muscled and skillful in making a living.

The weakest sectors of democracy on the agricultural front are the low-income groups. The door of opportunity is not open as wide to these people as it should be in a democracy.

In 1929, for instance, the lowest-income third of our farm families received only 8 percent of the gross farm income. In fact, in that so-called boom year of 1929, nearly a million farm families received a gross farm income of less than \$400. Virtually the same situation existed in the cities. Some progress has been made in correcting this situation within the last few years, but a tremendous lot remains to be done.

Here is a front in the democratic battle where all of us must go over the top in a united charge. You want to live and I want to live in a democracy that does something about such problems as these. If we do not we run the risk of not having a democracy to live in. There must be productive work for these people to do, and they must be respected for doing it and rewarded fairly for doing it.

Starting at rock bottom, one kind of work for them to do is obviously to produce a better supply of food for their own families, and more of their own clothing and shelter and simple equipment with their own

hands. Helping them develop this sort of work is a job that our science and our education have shirked.

We need research that will develop the types of vegetables and fruit and feed crops which will do best for the low-income farm family, using part of its working hours in producing its own food. We need a stronger effort on the part of the Extension Service and the vocational educational system and the Farm Security Administration to teach these people how to make the best use of their time in home food production and preservation, and in making their own equipment. We need to give greater attention to the AAA programs if we are to help these families provide home food.

It is just common sense to double our effort to make democracy work on the low-income agricultural front.

Democracy in Farm Programs

It is common sense also to speed and strengthen our joint effort with farm people to make democracy work in the administration of the farm programs. Also in planning the future application of the programs county by county so they will contribute most to building a permanent and satisfactory agriculture.

In 1938, the county land use planning program was put on its present basis by the Mount Weather agreement between the colleges and the Department and the later reorganization of the Department. Now, 2 years later, the program is in operation in more than a thousand counties. In the coming year we ought to aim at a full program for 2,000 counties and some phases of the program in operation in every county.

The land use planning idea, bringing together in one powerful team for each county the farm people, the workers in the State agricultural services, and the workers in the Federal agricultural services, bears the stamp of democratic genius. We solicit your help and we pledge our support in assisting farm people at the job of thinking democracy through; strengthening democracy at its weakest point, the low-income group; in making democracy work through cooperative planning of agricultural programs county by county.

EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

For January 1941 • Lester A. Schlup, Editor

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EXTENSION SERVICE, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C. • M. L. WILSON, Director • REUBEN BRIGHAM, Assistant Director

Farm Planning Schools for Illinois Agents

■ "It was really a pleasure to spend 3 whole days without interruptions on something that's as important as farm planning."

This is the way most of the agents attending the recent farm-planning schools praised the 3-day events held in Illinois.

Ray H. Roll, Gallatin County, said, "These schools are especially helpful, since there are so many agencies in each county trying to help the farmer. The planning schools help us to attack the farmers' problems as a whole, rather than as individual problems in crops, livestock, soils, or forestry. Attending the school away from my own county prevented interruptions, too. The school will help me to carry on with my own schools in farm planning without much outside assistance."

E. O. Johnston, of Piatt County, said, "Most of us haven't had enough experience in coordinating the whole farm plan for our cooperators. The farmer usually comes in to us with one problem at a time. But the farmers of the future who keep on top will plan long-time programs embracing all phases of the farm business. That's what these schools will help us as farm advisers to do better. As soon as I can arrange it, I am going to meet with AAA committeemen in Piatt County and take as much time as necessary to get them acquainted with farm planning. Then I will ask them to go home and complete a farm plan for their own farm. This training will not only help them plan their own farms better, but will help them to assist AAA co-operators and others in making proper adjustments in their farming operations."

Other farm advisers voiced similar opinions at each of the district planning schools. The schools were attended by a total of 89 county agents, 9 assistant agents, 3 farm bureau-farm management service fieldmen, 15 extension specialists, 3 farmers, 30 representatives from the AAA, SCS, FCA, FSA, and 5 out-of-State visitors.

The schools were requested by agents themselves following the 100 county farm planning schools held last winter. They were conducted by J. B. Cunningham and M. L. Mosher, extension farm management specialists; and R. C. Hay, agricultural engineering specialist.

Two days of each 3-day school were spent on a farm selected as a "laboratory" where a long-time farm plan was actually worked out. The first day was devoted to agricultural engineering problems. Farm advisers equipped with level outfits had actual experience in laying out contour or terrace lines and making contour maps of rolling portions of the problem farm.

The second day they made a physical inventory of the farm and paired off in the afternoon to plan a complete program for the farm. In making up the plan, the human, as well as physical, factors were considered. For example, it was considered in each case whether the farmer was a renter or whether he operated his own farm. Ages of the farmer, his wife and children were considered, as were debts, capital, yearly family needs, and retirement age.

Plan the land use program first, then plan the livestock to fit the farm. Afterwards plan the marketing program and estimate the expenses to determine the probable net income, suggested the instructors.

A night meeting was held on the second evening of each school to record the plans

in the booklet, Planning the Farm Business. So interested were the agents in making their plans that many of them continued to work until almost midnight, even though the meeting was adjourned at about 9:30 p. m.

The next morning they were back on the job again at 7:30 and spent another 2½ hours putting the finishing touches to the various parts of their plans, preparatory to presenting them at a farm planning "clinic."

The farm planning "clinic" which occupied most of the third and final day, was attended by State and district representatives of the AAA, FSA, and the SCS, as well as by members of the departments of agronomy, dairy husbandry, animal husbandry, horticulture, and agricultural economics.

Out-of-State visitors who attended the "clinics" were P. V. Kepner, regional director of farm management extension of the United States Department of Agriculture; J. B. McNulty, farm management extension, University of Minnesota; H. T. Delp and A. T. Anderson, Farm Credit Administration, St. Louis, Mo., and E. C. Bird, county agricultural agent of St. Joseph County, Ind.

Using his farm as a laboratory for farm planning, Farmer Meredith points out to Illinois county agents some features of interest on his DeWitt County farm.



Out of the Red With Blueberries

This story of Maine farmers who joined their county agent in working out a system for making blueberries pay is told by Dorothy L. Bigelow, of the Review staff, who visited Knox and Lincoln Counties during the blueberry season.

■ Inland a few miles from the coast of Maine where rocky headlands meet the challenge of the sea, farmers have found a way to increase profit from blueberries.

Years ago, seafaring men laid the foundations here of a tradition of sailing and ship-building in coastal towns. Later, when men were needed to work in limestone and granite quarries in Lincoln and Knox Counties, the Finns came. When work dwindled in the quarries these northern immigrants settled with their families on the small farms thereabouts where the thin layers of soil scarcely cover the rocky hills.

Most of the virgin tall timber already had been cut to build ships and colonial homes up and down the coast.

How could these men make a living for their families? They tried different types of farming, but their incomes were low.

Extension work had already been started in Maine and in 1916, Roger Gowell was appointed extension county agent in Knox County, and in 1918 Sidney Evans became agent of Lincoln County. Studies made by these two showed the types of farming and the problems.

County Agents Gowell and Evans conducted economic demonstrations on silage corn, oats, and beans with farmers to show them the value of the work.

When the Knox-Lincoln County Farm Bureau was organized in 1919, a more definite program was prepared to meet the needs of the farmers through the help of the farmers themselves.

On the more fertile land they grew sweet corn, silage corn, apple orchards, and raised dairy stock and poultry.

But, on the wild and semiwild land—even where the gray ledges protrude through the acid soil—blueberries grow in abundance.

Farmers sold their blueberries to canning factories, but when the prices they received were low they became dissatisfied.

In 1932, the men of old American stock and those of Finnish descent talked together and decided that something must be done.

R. C. Wentworth had been working with them as their county agricultural agent since 1921. He knew them all by their first names and they called him "Ralph." He was the man to understand their problems.

At the University of Maine was another man who could help. County Agent Wentworth knew how much valuable aid Ray N. Atherton, marketing specialist, had given the farmers in organizing cooperatives. Mr. Atherton met the county agent in Rockland and together they talked with farmers.

The prices paid in New York for fresh blueberries were good. Why not organize a cooperative for shipping their fresh berries to cities? Farmers, eager to make a profit from their blueberry fields, agreed that the idea seemed sound.

Farmers Organize Cooperative

This group of farmers of Knox and Lincoln Counties organized the State of Maine Blueberry Growers, Inc., bought a building at West Rockport, arranged for credit, and installed a system of books.

Today, about 100 active members belong to this cooperative. Henry Kontio, the manager, says that each year the organization handles approximately 22,000 bushels of blueberries, besides handling several thousand dollars worth of blueberry equipment for its members.

Some of the farmers now have an annual income of about \$3,000 from their blueberries alone.

Berries are packed in the fields in quart boxes, 24 boxes to the crate. Each quart box is covered with cellophane before it is placed in the crate. Owners are responsible for packing. The work is done in the fields by their families who also rake or pick the berries and put them through a cleaning process to rid the berries of all foreign matter such as leaves and sticks.

When a farmer brings his crates of fresh blueberries to the cooperative he decides to which buyer in the city he wants to have them shipped. His berries are then placed in the row of crates labeled for that merchant. After the manager has O. K'd the product he gives the farmer a receipt. Later the farmer receives a check for his consignment.

To produce blueberries of finest quality farmers burn over about one-third of their blueberry field each year, usually in the early spring, after the snow has melted on the fields



The ultimate consumer eating blueberry pie.

but before the frost is out of the ground.

On well-burned land the parts of the blueberry plants above ground are completely removed, but the root systems of the plant are not injured. During the summer—immediately following the burn—the blueberry plants are stimulated to rapid growth, but no berries are produced until the next year.

Farmers fight constantly to cut down the infestation of blueberry maggots. The burning over of the land helps. During the growing season calcium arsenate is dusted over the blueberry land to kill the flies as they loiter about on the foliage, before any considerable number of eggs have been laid.

There is little danger of there being excessive arsenical residue at picking time. Usually the rains are sufficient to wash the poison off. As an added precaution, inspectors take samples of berries from different places in each field. These samples are tested in a laboratory at the shipping plant. If the amount of the residue is above the United States tolerance the berries are not picked from that field.

Traps are set to determine the arrival of the flies. Mr. Wentworth then sends out notices to his farmers on when to dust and what material to use. Usually farmers put on two dusts each summer.

In 1940, Mr. Wentworth reported that 50,000 bushels of blueberries were harvested by cooperators and only 11 bushels were condemned.

■ A 4-H Club patriotic ceremony prepared by the State club staff of Wisconsin has been successfully put on at several of their county 4-H achievement day meetings, according to T. L. Bewick, State club leader of Wisconsin. He states that it has appealed to the public to a gratifying extent.

Texans Grow Their Own Food

TWO YEARS' FOOD CAMPAIGN THROWS NEW EMPHASIS ON LIVE-AT-HOME

■ One activity that has contributed materially to the health and physical well-being of Texas rural citizens during the past 2 years is the foods campaign used by the Texas Extension Service to throw a new emphasis on the live-at-home program into which all its self-sustaining farm enterprises have since 1933 been coordinated.

Through the food campaign every extension worker, as he carried on activities in his own particular field, has encouraged every farm and ranch family to work at the job of producing, conserving, and preparing food for home use. Through the work of land-use planning committees; through the home food supply demonstration of 4-H Club girls and home demonstration club women; through the whole farm and ranch demonstration; through agronomy, horticulture, dairy, poultry, and livestock demonstrations of 4-H Club boys and farm men—the importance and value of providing food for home use have been stressed.

Home-industries demonstrations have contributed to improvement in quality of home products as well as of products offered for sale. The development of farmers' cooperatives has led to group purchases of fruits, of fruit trees, to the establishment of freezer-locker-storage plants, and to other activities that make for the improvement of the food supply.

In landscaping activities, the relation of food-bearing plants; of windbreaks; of shade for livestock and poultry; of grassy areas about the place; of convenience in arrangement of gardens, orchards, and out-buildings, to food for the family, as well as to the comfort, convenience, and beauty of the homestead have been emphasized.

The relationship of a well-nourished, well-poised body to a well-groomed, well-dressed person has been a part of the stock-in-trade of those who work on clothing.

The philosophy of good family relationships has helped to give each member of the family the privilege and the responsibility of helping produce, conserve, prepare, and serve food.

Through the food campaign a program of better cooperation between the Extension Service and Federal action and relief agencies; between the Extension Service and other educational agencies on activities relating to getting a better-fed people has been achieved.

Provisions in the programs of other agencies, such as the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, the Farm Security Administration, the Soil Conservation Service, the Surplus Marketing Administration, the Works Progress Administration, the National Youth Administration, and the Farm Credit Admin-

istration, vocational agriculture and home-making teachers have been important in getting more vegetables and fruits grown for home use; more pastures and feed crops for home dairy cows, meat animals, and poultry; more water facilities to irrigate gardens and orchards; more well-balanced lunches for school children; and more cooperative enterprises leading to the improvement of the food supply established.

Texas 1940 results, not yet completely tabulated, show a marked increase in production of vegetables and a great increase in conservation of food for the nonproductive months.

The increase in food production for 1939 as compared to 1938 was 20 percent in vegetables, with 131,908,149 pounds of vegetables grown; a 30-percent increase in fruit, with 3,730,198 pounds grown; and a 50-percent increase in stored foods, including 13,508,164 quarts of fruits, vegetables, and meats; and 6,822,430 pounds of fresh, dried, and cured fruits, vegetables, and meats.

In addition, more than 41,000 farm women and girls have memorized the Texas Food Standard and used it as a guide to making production and preservation budgets.

Everybody has worked—men, women, boys, and girls. Everybody has taken part in educational programs; men and women extension specialists; men and women county extension agents; men and women of other Federal action agencies and relief agencies, and other educational workers; men and women and boys and girls from the farms and ranches.

Extension literature related to the home food supply has been made more appealing. As a means of stimulating the mass of people to learn what foods are needed, a nutritional measuring rod, the Texas food standard, presenting scientific information on food needs of the body in brief simple terms, easy to read, easy to memorize, was printed on a pocket-size card and widely distributed.

A group of leaflets, the Starring Series, brief, popular in size, "enough alike to be a series but different enough to be exciting," has been published and released at regular intervals. The general pattern of the series is a brief statement on the nutritional value of the foods being written about, a few attractive recipes, some information on how to produce

or purchase food, and something on the preservation or storage of food.

In addition to these, the general pattern of all extension publications has changed. They are all briefer and simpler, have more illustrations, and are more attractive in color and style.

The methods employed by extension workers have been more appealing. The whole foods picture, from production to utilization, has been presented—to the whole family—in ways calculated not only to give the information, but also to stimulate the imagination; to appeal to the sense of beauty; to startle by the magnitude of the quantity and value; to appeal to the smell and taste and make people so hungry for the product that they will go home and do something about producing or obtaining the quantity they need for their own tables.

Much of the increase in vegetable production is the result of another favorable growing season, and of the provision in the 1940 agricultural conservation program making the growing of a home garden of one-half acre with 10 varieties of vegetables, a soil-building practice that would earn a soil-building payment. Reports indicated that 5 percent, or about 7,000 of these gardens, are on farms that have never grown gardens before.

Several things have stimulated an increase in the conservation of food. There has been a revival of interest in simple inexpensive conservation methods—things that anyone can do no matter how meager the food preservation equipment and supplies, or the storage space, or the money for providing these. As a result, storage mounds have been used—small ones that will hold a week's supply of those products which, like silage, have to be used quickly when once the storage space is opened; and large ones into which the winter supplies of well-cured sweet-potatoes are being placed.

Because of the abundant supply of good fruits and vegetables more than usual interest has been shown in up-to-date information on canning, preserving, brining, and pickling. And, then the rapid increase in the number of freezer-locker-storage plants over the State—there are now approximately 100—has brought the possibilities of improved methods of storing good quality home-produced foods, especially beef, within the range of many families who formerly bought all they had or did without.

The whole activity is contributing to American stability and strength. It is helping people eat the right food, and eating the right food helps make people strong. Strong people, busy people, happy people constitute the first line of national defense.

Aiming at Agricultural Stability

R. J. BALDWIN, Director of Extension Service, Michigan

■ Clean sand beside blue waters is a source of delight to everyone. Sand piled high in dunes may be a fascinating playground. Sand moving with the wind becomes a menace to mankind.

Over a wide area along the shores of Lake Michigan wind-blown sand has become a serious problem. Drifting sand has covered wide expanses of fertile farm land. It has left a tract of ruined farms and abandoned homes. It has choked creeks, ditches, reservoirs, and harbors.

In other areas, uncontrolled water has become a relentless destroyer. It has carried precious topsoil into rivers and lakes. It has gouged out slopes and hillsides. It has buried good soil beyond recovery.

These forces working over wide areas have created problems beyond the power of individuals to solve. But, since October 1937, it has not been necessary for individuals to work alone. At that time, the State law permitting the establishment of soil conservation districts in Michigan became operative.

Under the terms of this law, areas having common problems of erosion control may set up local subdivisions of government known as conservation districts. Through these districts, the local people may join their resources with the Soil Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, the extension service of the State college of agriculture, the department of conservation of the State government, and other agencies in making plans and carrying forward programs designed to control the depletion of soil and where possible to repair the damages already done.

The first district came into being in October 1938, in one of the lake shore counties in which serious wind erosion had made the people conscious of the need for united action. This was accomplished by the conservation committee of the board of supervisors, the county agricultural agent, and the extension soil conservationist working together to inform the local farmers of the district plan. The State soil conservation committee established under the new law accepted the farmers' petition, heard the farmers at the public hearing, and authorized an election under terms of the law. When the election was held, the vote was nearly unanimous for the district plan.

Six additional districts had been organized by October 1940 and have voted to come under the provision of the State law. Plans have been formulated and action programs are under way which integrate the resources of local people, the Soil Conservation Service, the Extension Service, Farm Security Administration, County Land Use Planning



Local landowners file in to cast their ballot for or against a soil conservation district in Dalton Township, Muskegon County, Mich.

Commission, and other Federal and State agencies concerned.

The problem of wind erosion presented a definite challenge to the State extension service. The fact that farms are small in this section of Michigan (the average is only 57 acres in Ottawa County) meant that our county agents had an intensive extension campaign on their hands. In a wind-erosion area, the indifference of one farmer to recommended erosion-control practices can endanger the success of the whole program. The educational job was made more difficult by the fact that the agent could not suggest the retirement of any sizable proportion of the farm to trees or grass as a means of combating wind erosion. These small farms had to be cultivated rather intensively if their operation was to remain economically practical.

The Extension Service accepted the challenge and inaugurated a widespread educational program for the formation of soil conservation districts in the wind-swept areas along Lake Michigan. The Extension Service arranged a series of farmer meetings to disseminate the information about the districts program. Extension specialists worked with technicians of the Soil Conservation Service in the development of proper rotations, species of seedings, and better land use. The help of the State department of conservation was secured in the development of plans for wildlife. The Farm Security Administration made cooperative loans to finance marl digging. Individual county agents played an important part in the work of districts organization, referendum, and election. But,

perhaps, their most effective job was in stimulating and developing farm leadership in the district areas.

Soil conservation districts in Ottawa and Muskegon Counties now embrace nearly a half million acres. Erosion resisting crops have been substituted for clean-tilled crops on acres of highly erodible lands. The grazing of livestock in woodlands is being reduced to a negligible point. Tracts of abandoned land are being placed in trees or restored to grasses; and such mechanical controls as terraces, dams, and contour furrows are being instituted where needed. Agricultural stability is in the process of being won for this sand-swept region because the farmers have adopted the districts program as their own and are accepting a proportionate share of the responsibility for remedying the sad condition of their farms.

It is no Pollyanna figure of speech to say that our county agents and technicians of the Soil Conservation Service have worked as co-partners with district boards of supervisors in the development of districts programs. Our men knew full well that there were not enough hours in the day for them to undertake detailed farm planning and engineering work. They have, therefore, regarded the districts program as an invaluable ally in the fight for economic farming practices. They have labored to stimulate local initiative and responsibility in combating the problem and to educate farmers in advance to receive the assistance needed from the various cooperating agencies. There has been a conscious effort on the part of the State extension service, the Soil Conservation Service, Farm Security Administration, Agricultural Adjustment Administration, County Land Use Planning Commission, and certain other agencies, to make their work supplement and complement each other. The net result has been a single broad-gage program of conservation and education.

The soil conservation district plan is a splendid new instrument which can be used effectively where conditions demand prompt, united and aggressive effort. It fits in well with established methods of extension education and with official programs responsible for conservation of natural resources. It is sound in that it builds upon local cooperation and local leadership.

The goals to be achieved are worthy of the effort. Wind and water; sun and soil; plants and animals must serve man's needs. They must be made to supply his home comforts, stimulate his development, provide for his security from generation to generation. To achieve these goals natural forces must be in constant control.

Arkansas Women Look to Defense

CONNIE J. BONSLAGEL, State Home Demonstration Agent, Arkansas

■ The general theme of the eleventh annual conference of the Arkansas Council of Home Demonstration Clubs, held September 4 and 5, was Developing a Cultural Environment for Rural Living. The president spoke on Home Demonstration Club Women as Conservators of Rural Culture. The program numbers, contributed almost entirely by club members themselves, were built around this central subject. Many of the speakers pointed out that in times of stress like these, the homemaker's responsibility in the matter of conserving standards of rural culture is increased many fold.

Little groups of women talked together about other responsibilities that farm women should assume when war threatens and the whole world is thinking in line with programs of national defense. "What can we as an organization do to help," they asked. They were really concerned. They were thinking. At one of its between-session meetings, the executive committee talked and made plans for the organization to function most effectively. These plans were repeated to the 390 club members making up the conference and were approved by them unanimously.

Committee on Preparedness Appointed

As a result, on September 5, Mrs. R. C. Harville, president of the State council, announced the appointment of a State home demonstration committee on preparedness, the members being: Mrs. Louis Oates, Conway County, chairman; Mrs. Robert Cherry, Craighead County; Mrs. Clyde Taylor, Miller County; Mrs. G. T. Dunn, Jr., Chicot County; and Mrs. E. A. Haley, Grant County.

Mrs. Oates called a luncheon meeting of the committee the same day. At this meeting the members decided that similar committees of 5 should be set up in all of the 77 county home demonstration councils and in the 2,067 home demonstration clubs.

"So much for the set-up, the organization," observed one member of the committee, "but what are we going to do?" After much discussion, it was agreed that the committee would not attempt to make plans or a program of its own, but rather to keep in touch with the progress of State and national defense activities and stand ready to carry out applicable plans relating to farm-family living, and to respond to demands that may be made on farm families.

"Getting ready and waiting are all right in their places but an idle committee is a committee soon dead," one woman suggested. Another, quiet until that moment, said, "Well, I remember our defense work during the last

war and it seems to me what we need to do is to work harder on our present home demonstration program. Some phases of it are defense measures. We need better food, better health, and better homes for defense." And "better babies" spoke up another.

One idea led to another until all had agreed that the "live-at-home" program should be emphasized with renewed vigor, that the first line of defense for any farm family is better health through a well-planned, home-grown food supply. Mrs. Oates said, "I think the county leaders in gardening, canning, poultry, and home dairy work ought to be the county home demonstration committee on preparedness." And so it was agreed. Likewise, in each of the clubs local leaders in foods and nutrition phases of the program make up the home demonstration club committees. It so happens that the chairman of the State committee is a member of the State livestock board and of the State land use planning committee.

On September 19, the chairman's letter went out to all county council presidents. Each home demonstration agent got a copy, of course, along with the information that as these committees really were "live-at-home" committees, all specialists having to do with foods would be interested in helping with training schools planned for them.

As fast as home demonstration club committees are organized, they are set the task of making a live-at-home inventory of their neighborhoods or communities. The second step will be discussions of the leaflet Better Living Through Well-Planned Family Food Supply. These discussions will take place in club meetings and during home visits made to nonclub members. Families will be "signed up" to follow the plan.

Ozark Community Takes Inventory

On October 17 the writer attended a community land use planning meeting in an Ozark Mountain county. Forty-eight farmers and farm women were there. They talked of program planning and of local problems. The chairman who is president of the local home demonstration club announced that the home demonstration club committee on preparedness had visited every family in the community and had taken inventories of the foods grown, conserved, and stored for the winter and that the chairman wanted to present those figures as representing a land use problem as well as a point for attack in any program where farm-family living is involved. Her figures were a surprise even to some of the families who had helped increase them.

4-H Club members are assisting with these

inventories through the schools in a few communities where families are widely scattered. Leaders developed through the mattress program will serve in some communities where there are no home demonstration clubs.

At this State meeting another committee important to agricultural welfare was set up, a committee on cotton utilization with Mrs. Joe Hardin, of Lincoln County, as chairman. Serving with her are Mrs. W. J. Cagle, of Woodruff County; Mrs. Rose Prothro, of Pulaski County; and Mrs. W. L. Woods, of Ashley County.

They are cooperating with the State cotton utilization committee and with the National Cotton Council. Partly as a result of their activities, all county fairs and home demonstration achievement day programs have carried cotton displays. A cotton Christmas will be observed in most home demonstration clubs and many home demonstration homes.

Among resolutions passed were those to put increased vigor into the home-made homes program; to increase the number of better babies clubs and enrollees; and to continue gifts of household cotton and canned foods to the Arkansas Children's Home and Hospital which is the council's official charity.

Mrs. Harville says that, with an active home demonstration council in every county and a membership of 61,294 women in 2,067 local clubs, the machinery would seem to be adequate to give State-wide spread to any information or work whether it is routine or of an emergency or defense nature. They mean to have their machinery oiled and ready to go.

■ Before an audience of about 4,000, Sumter, Kershaw, Greenwood, and Richland Counties presented a pageant at the 1940 State fair demonstrating the 4-H part in better farm living in South Carolina.

The economic side of the program was portrayed by Sumter County 4-H members with Mr. and Mrs. Proctor, both local 4-H leaders, and their three children, 4-H members, representing the farm family. One of the scenes showed the importance of dairy products. Other scenes showed livestock, poultry, grain, and food preparation.

The second episode, health, was presented by Kershaw County members who crowned the State 4-H health king and queen as a climax to their scene showing health requirements and the work of the county health physician and nurse. Greenwood County demonstrated recreational activities.

The grandstand audience took part in the opening group of songs and in the closing citizenship ceremonial which was staged by a Richland County 4-H group.

Forest Farming Profits Floridians

LAND USE PLANNING LEADS TO INCREASED INTEREST IN GUM FARMING

GUY COX, County Agricultural Agent, Columbia County, Fla.

■ Away down upon the Suwannee River, among the towering cypresses and whispering pines, lies Columbia County, Fla. Columbia is one of those counties forming the northern tier of Florida counties and is bounded on the west by the Suwannee River. One has only to visit this county—70 miles long and 20 miles wide—to see its vast acres of lands that produce no cash crop, but there is potential wealth in its growing pines. No one is more conscious of this than is the native who has long since learned to look upon his pine as cash. Sources of cash from the pines are gum, sawlogs, piling, cross ties, posts, veneer blocks, pulpwood, stumps, and firewood.

Gum farming is farming for that product gathered from the slash and longleaf pine—from a regular chipping of the face made through the bark into the outer $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch depth of the wood. It flows into a cup and from here is gathered for market. Gum is made into numerous products, including turpentine, rosin, shoe polish, paper sizing, and soap for the convenience of mankind.

Realizing the value and importance of pine to the people of this section, farm people in community and county land use planning meetings asked for help with their forest problems. The Florida Forest and Park Service and United States Forest Service, seeing the need, cooperated in the employment of a specialist in forest farm management under provision of the Norris-Doxey Act, with the Florida Extension Service and Soil Conservation Service collaborating.

When Clark Mathewson, project forester, arrived in Lake City, he found several men awake to the value of operating and carrying on forest practices, having tried them out in cooperation with the United States Forest Service, the Florida Forest and Park Service, and on the private holdings as extension demonstrators. These pioneers in gum farming as a cash crop were showing what could be done when one works the forest as diligently as he would his row crops of cotton, tobacco, peanuts, sea-island cotton, and corn. Mr. Mathewson started to teach through actual demonstration by beginning work with these original forest farm operators.

A farm plan is the first step in perfecting a long-time forest farming program. The farm plan covers the complete farming operations with the Soil Conservation Service cooperating in making a 5-year plan for the cropland and the project forester making plans for the forest and woodlands. The Extension Service does the educational work



Columbia County gum farmers dipping gum and chipping pine trees.

with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration participating by making benefit payments to cooperating farmers for carrying out improved soil-building and soil-conserving practices.

Demonstration farmers of this area, working in cooperation with Federal and State agencies, are showing neighbors and visitors that with careful planning and consistent effort the one-time waste-woodlands of the farm are now the source of a continuous and regular cash income.

The virgin yellow pine lumber of the southern forest is rapidly disappearing and with continued wasteful cutting will soon become a relic of the past. The forest farm program aims to avert this, for pine is an asset with many uses.

Long and straight pine is an excellent support to our large bridges, making a strong and lasting piling or pole for use where endurance is required.

The pine now furnishes cross ties over which one rides when traveling by the fast trains serving the South. It is over these ties that many of the southern fruits and vegetables, crated in southern pine for shipment, are carried by long freight trains to the markets of the North and East.

Farmers have learned that the young pine with proper treatment will make an excel-

lent fence post. Pines are now finding their way through the pulp mill to be made into paper.

Stumps removed from cleared lands are a source of pine tar.

Pine as fuel is the reliable source for cooking those meals so relished by the farm family and so much enjoyed throughout the South.

Farmers in Columbia County using the forest and forest products as a cash crop find easily accessible cash markets for their products locally or in consuming centers. Nearby Florida and Georgia cities compete for the forest products—lumber for local sawmills, pilings and poles, and pulpwood for paper mills.

Finally, pine seed produced in this section is marketed throughout the Southeast. This is an income long neglected by the farmer, but as there are local markets, several carloads of cones are gathered annually or as regularly as the pine produces a seed crop.

The farm people welcome and are highly appreciative of the services rendered by Clark Mathewson, their local project forester, and the cooperating agencies helping them to better utilize the farm woodlands along with a more nearly balanced farm plan and land use program, which will lead to a more bountiful living and a contented farm people.

Land Use Shifts

Anchoring Kansas Dust

■ The Kansas Dust Bowl, comprising 54 Kansas counties, reports only 212,000 acres in a hazardous condition this year while last year there were 1,285,066 acres which county agents reported to be in a condition to blow even with normal winter precipitation.

Last year 26 of these counties faced a feed shortage, while in 28 feed supplies were only adequate to care for a limited livestock population. This fall with favorable weather, only one county is short of feed, 24 have an adequate supply and 29 counties have surpluses. The sorghum acreage nearly doubled in these counties. This served as a protection for the land as well as providing abundant livestock feed. Farmers in these 54 counties planted 3,315,827 acres of sorghum in 1940 as compared to 1,899,634 in 1939.

The most troublesome of these Dust Bowl counties have developed a modified adjustment program through their land use planning committees with the cooperation of AAA and the Extension Service. This modified program differed from the ordinary agricultural conservation program in that no payment was made for diversion; all of the grant to the farmers being based upon the extent to which soil conserving or soil building practices were performed. Sixty-four meetings and conferences were conducted at which the "modified program" was explained by an extension agronomist.

Two thousand three hundred and fifty-five farmer committeemen and leaders participated in these meetings. Ten southwest Kansas counties voluntarily adopted the plan. In these 10 counties major emphasis was placed on the stabilizing influences of an adequate sorghum acreage. The sorghum acreage in this area jumped from 379,000 acres in 1939 to 755,000 acres in 1940. Nine of the ten counties have surplus feed and in the tenth, the supply is adequate. The fall of 1939 found these counties with 211,000 acres of land in condition to blow; while on October 1, 1940, only 57,100 acres were in condition to blow. The tremendous influence of the combined efforts of Extension and Agricultural Adjustment was an important factor in focusing farmer attention toward feed production. The modified program area is now being expanded to include additional counties.

Revitalizing Worn-Out Kentucky Land

Shifting back to grass and timber, vast acreages of worn-out Kentucky land have been planted during the past year. It is

estimated that there are 6 million acres of lespedeza in the State, 500,000 acres of clover combinations, and 200,000 acres of alfalfa. Half a million tons of lespedeza hay were harvested this year. To conserve the soil approximately a million tons of lime materials and the equivalent of 300,000 tons of 20 percent superphosphate were spread with at least 750,000 acres improved in this manner. Within 1 week after arrangements had been completed with TVA to distribute in the Tennessee Valley counties of Kentucky through cooperative soil-improvement associations, the limestone by-product of the Gilbertsville Dam project, Marshall County farmers had asked for 1,200 tons of limestone.

The difficulties and expense of bringing in limestone long distances were overcome in two Kentucky counties this year by the organization of cooperative associations. The Livingston County Soil Improvement Cooperative Association organized to operate a quarry at Smithland, distributed 10,500 tons of limestone in the first 8 months of the year. The Federal Bank for Cooperatives furnished funds for the purchase of quarry machinery.

In Perry County in the mountains of eastern Kentucky, through the Perry County

Farmers' Cooperative Association, 4,500 tons of limestone have been distributed since June. With no quarry in the county virtually no lime was used by Perry County farmers 4 years ago, and less than 1,000 tons were used in the 3 years of 1937, 1938, and 1939. This year, through the cooperative association, truckers moved lime up the narrow valleys of Squabble Creek, Lost Creed, Leatherwood, Troublesome, and Buckhorn at the rate of more than 100 tons a day. Fighting stubbornly against rain, driving laboriously up the steep mountain grades and down the rock-strewn creek beds, which serve as the only roads to many farms, truckers so far this year have delivered lime to 770 of the 1,877 farms in Perry County.

Dairy Improvement

Artificial insemination associations as tools for dairy herd improvement in Wisconsin were first set up early in 1939. Since then, 7 groups have been organized, reaching a total of 1,200 herds of cattle.

Sires being used for these associations are, in nearly all cases, animals which have proved their ability to transmit 400-pound butterfat production or better to their offspring. This means that nearly 11,000 producing cows and heifers in these herds are now being mated to superior herd sires.

Iowa's Home Demonstration Glee Club



■ A home demonstration agents' glee club is Iowa's latest musical accomplishment. The club of 50 members, made up entirely of home demonstration agents, was the highlight of the annual Iowa extension banquet.

In accord with the Latin America music study which Iowa home project and 4-H girls are following this year, the glee club's premier performance featured two Mexican songs, Carem Carmela and Cielito Lindo. Apropos both Latin-American music and current cotton surplus discussion, a special arrangement of the boll weevil song as encore brought an ovation from the listeners.

The glee club was directed by Winifred Martin, new member of the extension rural sociology music staff. This glee club further supplements the annual music-study for Iowa's 93,000 farm women and 13,000 4-H girls. Out of this has already developed such special activities as 71 county-wide rural women's choruses, including 1,879 farm women, a growing number of rural community mixed choruses, and special choral organizations among 4-H girls and rural youth groups.

This work was developed by Fannie R. Buchanan, extension assistant professor of rural sociology and organization, Iowa.

Laying the Basis for Sound Judgment

One of the biggest jobs of the extension agent is to lay a foundation of usable fact so that rural people can act most wisely. Rapidly changing economic conditions, due to the critical times in world affairs, force important decisions on rural people. As citizens of a democracy, they need information in a usable form and more of it. Extension agents are working on the job. The county land use organization is proving its worth by stimulating interest among farm people in basing decision on solid fact. A canvass of the State reports shows that the need for more economic information is being met in a variety of ways, as indicated by some typical examples.

Sound Thinking On Common Problems

Land use planning is in various stages of development in 29 counties of Arkansas. County agents say this activity has been responsible for more deliberate and sound thinking by farm people on common problems than any other single phase of work. With due regard for world events and the agricultural situations in the Nation, State, and county, land use planning committees willingly faced facts to evolve county programs that would make the most of the natural opportunities.

From these committees have come the conclusions that farm people must follow the live-at-home program as the first line of defense, that some shifts should be made to crops having domestic market demands and possibilities, that domestic and local markets should be developed, and that local natural resources should be put to use, providing industrial employment.

More specifically, the land use planning committee of Independence County plans development of local phosphate deposits for agricultural purposes. Other communities have under consideration decentralized industries such as wood-using plants.

Prevents Sharecroppers' Strike

Land use planning in 41 counties in Missouri is giving farmers an opportunity to help in determining the best use to which the land can be put in each locality. In the process of land use planning the local people have set out to find the solution to many social, economic, and cultural problems. As this is done, the Nation is thereby strengthened.

The Mississippi County, Mo., land use committee helped to prevent recurrence of a sharecroppers' strike that gave the region an unwelcome notoriety about 1 year ago. A subcommittee was appointed to call a meeting of landowners to see what could be done on a voluntary basis to provide shelter and land

for as many families as possible. The landowners made a survey of the county and created widespread sentiment to do everything possible to remove the conditions responsible for last year's disturbance.

Such activities as these which are being conducted by land use planning groups throughout the 41 counties undoubtedly will have a significant bearing on maintaining the morale of farm people. To give the people themselves a part in making plans tends to keep their spirits up.

Discussion Clarifies the Situation

Between 1,100 and 1,200 community organizations in Mississippi, with a membership between 50 and 60 thousand, are making a definite contribution to preparedness by discussion of national strength, morale, patriotism, health, food and food supplies, land use, conservation, and other economic and social problems affecting general welfare. Besides these communities which conduct organized programs, 15 counties are carrying on organization programs similar to these community programs. In either instance, the organization work is tied into the county program as developed by the county policy and planning committee. Factual information is supplied by the Extension Service and other agencies. The discussion-group method is employed in the formulation of individual and group viewpoint.

Farm Women Survey Facts

The Florida Council of Senior Home Demonstration Work, composed of 32 county councils, at its annual meeting in June centered its program around the general agricultural program. Representatives of the Extension Service, AAA, the land use planning committee, and the Federal Surplus Commodities Administration all discussed the national and international situations. Council women, about 150 in number, continued the discus-

sion from the standpoint of Florida situations. A State-wide program was adopted which emphasized need for the women to study agricultural situations, that each of the 318 home demonstration clubs in the State would devote the programs of at least two meetings to such subject—so reaching the more than 9,000 women enrolled in home demonstration clubs.

At the request of the State supervisor of home economics education, a home demonstration agent led discussion at each of the 15 district meetings for public-school teachers on how agricultural conditions affected home and family life, and explained the general agricultural program from that point of view. More than 1,000 teachers attended these meetings.

Taking Stock of Resources

Land use planning committees in 252 counties and in some 800 communities in Texas have brought farm leadership and the agricultural agencies of the Government together to take stock of the resources in land, livestock, equipment, and people. They have analyzed the problems confronting farmers and ranchmen. They have worked out ways to use their own resources and the assistance available from Government agencies in working out solutions to a substantial number of those problems.

This may be illustrated by San Saba County which was designated by the State land use planning committee as a unified county in 1940. Among the tangible results of land use planning in this county is an increase in the number of active farm leaders from about 10 to approximately 50. The committee was able to put into effect adequate control measures against poisonous range plants discovered during a vegetative survey made by the SCS, and to establish a cooperative erosion-control-demonstration area utilizing both the Extension Service and SCS in planning for farms and ranches.

Because of its effective leadership, San Saba was designated as the initial county in District 7 for the cotton mattress demonstration program and as a demonstration county for TVA superphosphate. The county land use plans were developed in 14 community meetings in which 750 farm people participated. The 4-H Club and adult demonstrations have been built upon the recommendations of the land use planning committee.

"Can we make a living on farms in this community, or should we move out and turn the country back to range?" This was a question of paramount importance to members of the land use planning committee of Dixie community, Idaho, at its first meeting in February 1938. Years of drought, low

prices, erosion, decline in yields, all contributed to a situation that was leading to farm abandonment, tax delinquency, mortgage foreclosures. In addition, the country did not show promise for the growing of cash wheat.

As a result of a survey of this community, several agencies have become interested in their situation. The Soil Conservation Service made a conservation survey and set up a CCC spike camp. The Farm Security Administration is lending money to help farmers make needed changes, including loans for the development of water facilities, for establishing seedlings of pasture and alfalfa, and for purchasing livestock, and also loans to 4-H Club members for the purchase of 40 ewes and 9 bred Guernsey heifers. In addition to supervision of 4-H projects the Extension Service has also helped to establish a number of test plots for grasses and other forage crops in this community.

Land Use Committees Use Facts

County land use planning committees in New Mexico have used economic information to good advantage in making recommendations for their agricultural program in the county.

In Luna County it is estimated that the bean growers were able to make \$39,762 by making changes in their dates of planting. It was formerly customary for the bean growers in Luna County to plant their beans around May 20. The available information showed that the individuals who planted a month or so later produced higher yields and did not have as much rust. The county land use planning committee recommended that all bean producers agree not to plant before June 25. The extension agents, with the help of the planning committee, were able to get nearly every farmer in the county to follow these recommendations. It was estimated that the bean production was increased 200 pounds per acre.

Economic information in regard to the destruction of grass and crops by jack rabbits furnished to the county planning committees was the basis for a program of control and eradication carried on in 6 counties.

A survey of the damage to cotton and wheat by cutworms and other insects was furnished to the planning committees in counties where cotton and wheat are major crops. These surveys were worked out in cooperation with the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine and other agencies.

In Eddy and Chaves Counties land use planning committees with the help of extension agents were able to secure funds from the 22 cotton gins and oil mills in the two counties, to pay the salary and traveling expenses of an entomologist during the period from June to September 1940.

In Columbia County, Oreg., as a result of county program planning, particular emphasis was given to water supply and sanitation

during the past year. Three community gravity water systems have been installed, bringing fresh mountain water to 88 families, the education, organization, and engineering activities having been provided by the Extension Service.

Young Farmers Study Their Job

To reach young farmers too old for 4-H Club work and not old enough to definitely take part in county and community adult activities, a three-year course of instruction was organized in cooperation with the Extension Service and the various branch experiment stations in Kansas. These short courses were 2 days in length and were designed to fit the respective sections of the State.

The first year's course was on soil management and crop production, the second year on livestock production and feed utilization, and the third year's course on farm organization and management.

Experiment station staff members and extension specialists were used as instructors for the short courses given. County agents in the respective counties enrolled young farmers between the ages of 18 and 30. The first school was held in 1937; 4 such schools were held in 1938; and 6 were held in 1939 with enrollees coming from 55 counties in the State and an attendance range from 20 to 60 young men per school.

These short courses are being continued in cooperation with each branch experiment station until the full 3-years' course has been given. In January and February 1941, similar schools are being started in 15 individual counties in the State.

In addition, the Division of Agriculture at Kansas State College is holding a 4-weeks' short course from January 6 to 30, 1941, for 60 young farmers from 51 counties in the eastern half of the State. These young men are to be from the ages of 21 to 40 years. They must be leaders in their communities and counties and actually farming for themselves. This short course is being financed from a scholarship fund made available to the State college.

We feel that these short courses are beginning to fill a very definite need in our rural educational, social, and economic structure by reaching a class of young people who have not heretofore been reached by any other program.

Community Groups Need Specialized Information

Meetings have been held in California to discuss with specialized producers, such as citrus growers, apricot growers, and apple growers, special marketing problems arising out of the current economic situation.

During the current year economics specialists alone presented information concerning the foreign demand situation at 74 such meetings before an audience of 5,725, and information concerning the subject of expanding home

markets at 93 similar meetings, having an attendance of 6,559. Commodity specialists have presented similar information before additional groups.

In addition to these meetings, many others have been held by the county staff alone. In 1939, county agents held 340 such meetings dealing with marketing, and 268 meetings dealing with agricultural outlook. In addition, 4,169 office calls concerned outlook and marketing. The 1940 figures will show this interest undiminished.

Facts Change Extension Program

The work of land use planning committees is definitely influencing extension programs in Indiana, according to the county agents. For instance in Vigo County, a good agricultural county, the land use planning study brought out the fact that there are 800 part-time farmers (about one-third of the farmers in the county) with from 1 to 3 cows, 25 to 100 chickens, 2 to 10 pigs, and a garden. These people had no extension program.

A dairy extension program for a farmer with 10 to 15 cows selling milk at from 2 to 3 cents a quart does not apply at all to the part-time farmer who sells the milk of 1 or 2 cows to his own family at 10 to 12 cents a quart. So the county agent is developing a program to meet the needs of the latter group.

Studying the Defense Needs

In Worcester County, Mass., a series of meetings, which will eventually reach every town in the county, are being held to acquaint people with the defense situation. These meetings are a cooperative effort on the part of several organizations, with the local defense chairman appointed by the Governor of Massachusetts in charge of the meetings.

The Extension Service agents help in organizing the meetings, supplying facts on the outlook, foreign markets, and other pertinent information and looking after necessary details. Rural and urban folks are invited to these meetings, and the average attendance so far has been around 50. At these meetings the extension agents have also taken the opportunity to explain rural policy work, as land use planning is called in Massachusetts.

The New York State Emergency Agricultural Defense Committee was created on June 22, 1940. Soon after, similar committees were organized in each agricultural county. One of the first jobs in some counties was to study the seed supply situation, especially of those seeds normally imported from Europe. These committees of farmers are studying agricultural resources and needs and are ready to move promptly as conditions require.

■ In Iowa, the slogan of the 4-H Clubs for 1940 was "Citizenship Through 4-H." Discussions throughout the State were conducted on "Our Job in Preserving Democracy."

Streamlining the Foods Program

■ The fundamental extension program of better food for the farm family appears in a number of new guises. Utilizing newer developments such as freezer locker storage, land use planning, and agricultural adjustment, extension agents are looking to the goal of adequate food for the farm family.

Freezer Lockers

The rapid increase in the availability of freezer lockers affords an opportunity to extension agents in many States. In Iowa, for example, approximately 80 percent of the farm families use freezer lockers. This method of storing food has promoted better diets through the increased use of fresh frozen fruits, vegetables, and meats, produced on the farm. To help the good work along, meetings with farm men and women and refrigerated locker operators were held in 50 Iowa counties last year. The nutrition specialist gave instruction in preparing the food for the locker, in managing locker space economically, and in using frozen foods.

In Illinois, especially in the northern two-thirds of the State, the increasing number of cold-storage locker plants emphasizes the transition from home curing of meats to payment of a cash outlay for this service in centrally located locker plants. A large percentage of the plants are operated as separate enterprises unattached to other businesses. It has been estimated that plant patrons save about 6 cents per pound by processing their own meats through the locker plant, as compared with purchase at retail prices and many of them use better quality meats than they would be willing to purchase.

The State of Washington now has more than 300 commercial cold-storage lockers, with an average of 291 individual lockers to the plant, supplying the needs of some 75,000 families—both rural and urban. Lockers are being used for the storage of meats, fruits, and vegetables.

Soon after the use of cold-storage lockers became known in the State, the Extension Service recognized a need for training farm people in their use. Training meetings have been held every year since, reaching many farm people throughout the State. During the fall and early winter of 1940, Rae Russell, extension nutritionist, and Con S. Maddox, extension animal husbandman, conducted 16 meetings in various parts of the State.

Interest in community refrigeration for better living is growing in southern rural districts where electricity has been installed. Last year, in Elmore County, Ala., county agent J. E. Morriss cooperated with farmers in the Holtville community in the erection of a cold-storage and quick-freeze plant which was patronized by about 75 farm families

during the first 4 months it operated. The plant was erected on school property, and is being operated in connection with the school where vocational agriculture is being taught to farm boys.

Freezer-locker storage systems have been installed by commercial concerns in several Arkansas counties. In Craighead County, Ark., more and more farmers are storing their meats, fruits, and vegetables in a plant which has a capacity of 260 lockers.

Land Use Planning

The land use planning study in Pinellas County, Fla., showed a nutritional need which the home demonstration program is trying to meet by emphasizing variety fruit plantings. This affects at least 250 families in a citrus county.

Under the land use program in New Mexico, three farm family food supply demonstrations were set up in representative problem areas last February. Specialists in livestock, dairy and poultry, nutrition, horticulture, agronomy, and economics are cooperating with the county workers in Chaves, Eddy, and San Miguel Counties.

In the 14 Louisiana parishes where land use planning has reached the recommendation stage, a definite acreage on a family-size basis has been recommended by the committees for a home garden and a home orchard. In Lincoln, the unified parish, definite goals for the number of new gardens and orchards to be established, the number of old gardens and the care of old orchards have been set up.

The interest in fruit has been very active in Louisiana with 20,000 fruit trees planted during the past year and a definite program on the care of home orchards in 31 parishes. Attendance at orchard field day meetings at Calhoun Experiment Station was surprising. Many came 100 miles and willingly tramped all over the station, sometimes in mud ankle deep with the thermometer well up in the 90's to study the results of the experiments.

Wisconsin also showed renewed interest in the home fruit supply with approximately 200 spray rings active in the State directly or indirectly traceable to extension orchard improvement work. Membership in these rings total 2,000 families. Each family produces approximately 4 bushels of fruit per family member each year for home consumption. In addition, each family markets an average of more than \$50 worth of fruit.

More Data

The need for more information on the actual situation in regard to food needs and food supply in specific localities has been met in a variety of ways. Production records on

food for home use and the value of food were kept by 20 families in Napa County, Calif. The summary of these records has been used throughout the State to encourage home food production to supplement family income. Studies made in three counties show the greatest value of home production in California is in improving the family nutrition rather than in increasing money saving.

In addition to analyzing home accounts of Iowa women in extension projects, the home management specialists are directing the analysis by WPA statisticians of about 1,200 records kept by Farm Security Administration families of their spending and their home production. As records are kept of quantities of food produced and purchased, this analysis will be an indication of the adequacy of home food production possibilities and dietary lacks of Iowa farm families in the lower income group.

Surplus Commodities

The school-lunch program made possible by the Surplus Marketing Administration has been used effectively in practically all States. Home demonstration agents and home demonstration clubs have taken the lead in establishing lunchrooms. Sumter County, Ga., is a typical example with a lunchroom in 8 of the 10 schools in the county. The home demonstration clubhouses are being used for the preparation and serving of the lunches. All the equipment was furnished by club members. Canned foods were put up by club members in the community cannery. Menus are planned by them and the lunches are usually prepared by home demonstration club members who are on WPA. Supplies given by the Surplus Commodities Corporation are a wonderful help.

In Kansas 12 organizations cooperate in putting on the school-lunch program in every county in the State. In Maine the school lunch work has been responsible for coordinating programs of the Extension Service, Health Department, and Education Department.

Home demonstration clubs in Seminole County, Fla., canned more than 2,000 quarts of foodstuffs for school lunches, and Holmes County, Fla., reports pantries of canned goods ready in 12 lunchrooms.

County agents in cooperation with the Extension committees have helped to obtain sponsors in the rural schools and to organize women's groups for aid to the school-lunch program in New Mexico. Often extension women's groups serve as sponsors.

In Quay County, where a unified project on child health is being conducted through the cooperative efforts of the various agencies, such as the Extension Service, the Farm Security Administration, the Public

Health Department, and the schools, a survey was made of school children to determine their dietary habits and standards. As a result of this survey, every school in the county served hot lunches to the children during the 1939-40 school year.

In some of the schools WPA aid was available but, where it was not, in addition to sponsoring the project, the women's extension groups attended to the matter of preparation and serving of lunches. Quay County was the only county in the State where all schools in the county, including city schools,

Wheat Facts for Washington Farms

■ The faith of Washington wheat farmers in their agricultural extension service stood them and the entire Nation in good stead in the fall of 1939. With the war clouds breaking rapidly over all of Europe and promising to spread over the entire world, a wave approaching hysteria swept over the wheat-growing section of the State.

Farmers remembered the \$2 a bushel wheat of World War 1; they remembered how early expansion of acreage planted had meant quick fortunes to many in the area. The threat of heavy overplanting was imminent throughout the entire district.

With reliable Government reports at hand and in constant touch with the situation both at home and abroad, extension specialists realized that such a planting of the thousands of fertile Washington wheat acres would mean disappointment and ruin not only to many farmers in the Pacific Northwest but would also work a hardship on the markets of at least the entire coastal area. In 1919 Washington had 2,495,000 acres which produced wheat—1939 plantings for the 1940 crop threatened to equal if not surpass that mark.

From the State extension office came news stories calling the attention of farmers to the heavy supplies of wheat in Canada and in Australia, the surplus of wheat in the United States and virtually every other producing nation in the world. In these news articles farmers were urged not to abandon the AAA program and risk the results of years of work in overplanting on an uncertain demand situation.

At the same time the news articles were released, R. M. Turner, assistant director and extension economist, talked to AAA community committeemen of eastern Washington at Colfax urging them to explain the situation to fellow farmers and discourage the idea of heavy fall plantings of grain.

The news articles were given widespread publication by cooperating newspapers. Triple A committeemen talked to their neighbors. Farmers listened. With but few exceptions the idea of overplantings was aban-

offered hot lunches for school children. Surplus commodities, supplemented by additional foodstuffs obtained by sponsors, were used.

School lunches were improved in Tehama County, Calif., when 34 nutrition project leaders were trained by the home demonstration agent to give a demonstration and talk on the lunch from home. Parents, as well as children—a total of 800 persons—attended the demonstrations which reached every school in the county. Teachers report that there is an improvement in the lunches brought from home.

doned. The total Washington wheat acreage was 2,080,000—the lowest point, with the exception of 3 years, since 1926.

Resulting price and market situations proved beyond any doubt that the Extension Service had been right in advising against the overplanting of wheat. The confidence of farmers in their Extension Service was further bolstered.

Again in the fall of 1940, Mr. Turner took the front position speaking for the Extension Service. Again the issuance of news articles was coupled with a series of talks before four district AAA conferences at which farmer committeemen from throughout the State were called in to discuss the 1941 program.

Before these conferences, Mr. Turner again explained the outlook for the wheat situation and again counseled against any overplanting on the basis of the war situation. Local papers carried the reports of the talk, coupled with releases to the weekly rural press of the State.

Again farmers of Washington listened. Reports at this time at extension and AAA offices indicate that there is no serious danger of overplanting in the State for 1941. Officials of the State AAA office readily declare that a considerable portion of credit is due extension activities for averting any threat of abandoning the farm program.

More Arkansas Seed

While home production of seed has been a live-at-home measure for a number of years in Arkansas, special emphasis was placed on this practice because of war-affected foreign seed sources. As a result of this effort county agents report that about 600,000 pounds of vetch seed was saved last spring. In addition, some quantities of hop clover and alfalfa seed also were saved, and agents report a very large quantity of lespedeza seed harvested this fall. In short there will be a greater number of local seed sources because of this emphasis.

A Report on Slides

During the past 2 years we have been using colored slides effectively for reports and meetings. I usually carry the camera with me in the car and when I find a farm practice which might be of interest to others in the county I take a color picture. Usually I plan to have the farm operator in the picture and this gives a local touch. I have also taken pictures at demonstrations such as of plow adjustment, herd analysis meetings, and various engineering practices.

For the past 2 years I have presented my annual report to the local board of supervisors by showing 25 to 30 local pictures which demonstrate various phases of the extension program as carried out in our county. I am also frequently called on to meet with future farmer groups at banquets and with agricultural teachers in their group meetings. I have found the showing of local pictures an effective way to present what is going on through our program locally. The audience seems to enjoy this type of illustrated talk with local color.—*Irvin B. Perry, county agent, Cortland County, N. Y.*

Home Economics Reading Courses

Reading courses designed to enable Illinois homemakers to continue their own education are proving popular. For the third year these courses are sponsored jointly by the Federation of Home Bureaus, the Extensions Service, and the Illinois State library.

The State library assists local libraries and individuals to obtain the books recommended by the home economics extension staff, and the Home Bureau Federation stimulates interest among the members in enrolling for the courses.

The 13 courses being offered are art, related to home and personal living; child development and guidance; clothing and textiles; family and social relationships; family economics, including consumer problems; food and nutrition; health, home care of the sick and first aid; the house and its surroundings; mental health; music for the home; recreation and entertainment; rural electrification; and sex education. Most frequently chosen courses in 1939 were family and social relationships, art in the home, the house and its surroundings, and child development. The course on mental health is offered for the first time this year.

The plan provides that each homemaker may earn a certificate in her chosen course by reading a certain number of books suggested on that phase of homemaking and then preparing a brief written report on each book. Certificates are awarded by the State library.

More than 1,000 homemakers enrolled in the reading courses first offered in 1938. Last year homemakers in 44 counties actively participated in the library project.

Stamp Plan Opens New Farm Markets

Five Million Dollars Worth of Surpluses Bought With Blue Stamps in October

■ New and substantial markets for farm products are being opened in the United States through the Food Stamp Plan of the Department of Agriculture.

Economic surveys conducted in the more than 200 Food Stamp areas now in operation furnish daily evidence that the tables of the needy families offer a great potential market for surplus farm foodstuffs. This domestic market is one that will not be easily upset by overnight changes in foreign situations. Properly developed it means outlets for surpluses which formerly glutted farm markets. From the viewpoint of the consumer, it means that the Surplus Marketing Administration through the Food Stamp Plan has taken steps to assure millions of men, women, and children in low-income families that they will get more adequate diets.

Bridging the gap between surpluses on the farm and want in the cities, this new food-purchasing power made available through the Stamp Plan acts as a syphon pumping millions of pounds of surplus foodstuffs each month from the farms through the normal trade channels to the tables of families who need it most.

In October about 2,200,000 persons spent \$5,000,000 for surplus foods through the use of blue food order stamps. Of the total stamp buying power used for the 19 items on the surplus list about 14 percent was spent for butter; 14 percent for eggs; 17 percent for cereal products; 12 percent for vegetables; 13 percent for fruits, and 30 percent for pork products.

Potatoes appeared on the surplus list for the first time during October and accounted for 5 percent of all blue stamp purchases. This means that families using the plan consumed 15,361,000 pounds of potatoes during the month. They also ate nearly 2,158,000 pounds of butter bought with blue stamps. It would take more than 100,000 cows to produce the milk needed for this amount of butter.

Other blue stamp purchases made during October included 2,657,000 dozen eggs; 17,456,000 pounds of flour; 7,647,000 pounds of other cereals; 10,450,000 pounds of pork products; a combined total of 7,245,000 pounds of dry beans, fresh snap beans, cabbage, cauliflower and tomatoes; 2,478,000 bundles of beets, carrots and celery; and carloads of apples, pears, oranges, raisins and dried prunes.

By spring, when areas designated but not yet in operation are opened and additional areas are brought under the plan, officials of the Surplus Marketing Administration expect that at least 5,000,000 people will be using

food stamps. It is estimated that this will provide new markets of more than \$10,000,000 each month for the producers of surplus farm crops. At the rate surplus purchases have held for recent months, needy families taking part in the stamp plan will then be consuming on an annual basis about 70 million pounds of butter; 80 million dozen eggs; 175 million pounds of pork; 70 million pounds of lard and carloads of fruits and vegetables.

Commodities on the list of nationally designated blue stamp foods for the December 1 to 31 period are: fresh grapefruit, cabbage, onions (except green onions), Irish potatoes, apples, pears, oranges, butter, raisins, rice, pork lard, all pork (except that cooked or packed in metal or glass containers), corn meal, shell eggs, dried prunes, hominy grits, dry edible beans, wheat flour and whole wheat (graham) flour. In addition, fresh spinach is available for the December period in the stamp plan areas of Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts.

Efforts are being made to keep the surplus list as flexible as possible in order that farmers confronted with a seasonal surplus problem may receive immediate and direct benefits. When the program first went into effect on May 16, 1939, there were only nine foods on the surplus list. They were butter, shell eggs, dry edible beans, dried prunes, oranges, fresh grapefruit, wheat flour and whole wheat (graham) flour, and corn meal. The surplus commodities have been changed from time to time, in accordance with changes in economic conditions and seasonal factors. On July 16, 1939, oranges and grapefruit were dropped and a number of new commodities added. These included rice, fresh peaches, fresh pears, cabbage, peas, tomatoes and onions. In October 1939, peaches, cabbage, peas, tomatoes and rice were dropped from the list, and raisins, apples, snap beans and pork lard were added. Other changes have been made from time to time.

Seasonal surplus problems concerning vegetables of major commercial importance were attacked through the Food Stamp Plan for the first time on June 10, 1940. During the season of vegetable surpluses, designations under the plan were reexamined periodically and changes were made in line with seasonal conditions. Flexibility of the plan made it possible to expand market outlets speedily for relatively short periods, meeting the current needs of seasonal production trends and changes in any area. This resulted in increased distribution and use of those vege-

tables which were produced primarily for nearby markets.

Through the operation of the Food Stamp Plan, merchants are becoming more aggressive salesmen for the farmers, at the same time that these producers of agricultural commodities are provided with wider market outlets for foodstuffs which needy families would otherwise not be able to buy.

To Illustrate News Stories

By taking quite a number and quite a variety of pictures each year, we have available to people here in Chemung County a rather useful picture file. As these pictures are finished, they are mounted in a looseleaf notebook with two or three prints on a page. The prints are hinged at the top with gummed strips so that information about the picture may be written under it. A key number for each picture is used and this key indicates the place where the negative will be found in the card index file.

These pictures are used primarily for illustrations in news stories and timely topics written for the Extension News and the daily and weekly papers. We also find the pictures useful when we prepare film strips for use in meetings. Some pictures, of course, have value only immediately after they are taken. Others, however, are useful for several years. For example, we used this year pictures of the operation of a farm combine and pictures of tobacco harvesting that were taken several years ago.—*L. H. Woodward, county extension agent, Chemung County, N. Y.*

Bromegrass Popular

Bromegrass is booming in Michigan. Michigan farmers purchased and planted 500,000 pounds of Canadian and Western seed in 1940, enough for 100,000 acres, nearly doubling previous acreages. The plant previously had become popular in Kansas and in the Dakotas for its drought resistance. Now farmers in Michigan are turning their attention to seed production.

Health "H" in Oregon

Last year there were 9,160 Oregon 4-H Club members enrolled in the health project. Estimated enrollment will approach the 12,000 mark this year. The work done in these health clubs is correlated with health subject matter in the regular school curricula and is carried on in close cooperation with local health units and clinics in various counties. Hundreds of these boys and girls through their health club work have secured samples of their home drinking water supply which they sent to the Oregon State College Bacteriology Department to be tested. The result has been an improved water supply in many places.

Hawaii Strengthens Her Position

H. H. WARNER, Director of Extension, Hawaii

Falling in line with the sister agencies on the mainland, the Hawaii Agricultural Extension Service is doing everything in its power to help prepare America for any emergency.

Problems affecting national defense in Hawaii differ from those in the States. For instance, Hawaii is not self-sufficient and is forced to import 70 percent of her food supplies. This is contrasted to conditions on the mainland where huge food surpluses are available throughout the country.

Racial differences in the Territory can also be contrasted. A large Japanese population presents difficulties of language, and problems of the older generation, and of dual or hyphenated citizenship among the younger. As will be explained later, the Extension Service is successfully solving these problems.

To counteract the importation of foods, the Extension Service this year is exerting every effort to have all rural people, including plantation laborers, raise home gardens. Both the county and home demonstration agents have placed this project on their must list. As an experiment, one assistant agent has been stationed at Ewa plantation to work solely with the employees.

At the same time, plantations are raising more winter vegetables for mainland shipment, which could easily be diverted into local channels if the emergency should arise. Sugar and pineapple plantations are also growing test plots of livestock feed and vegetables for human consumption so that if they are required by the United States Army to produce food and forage they will be able to present a list of crops which under their growing conditions, can most successfully be raised.

The question of racial groups and dual citizenship is scrambled. Many young Japanese who were born in the Territory before 1924 owe allegiance both to the United States and to Japan. This has brought a rather unhealthy situation which the Extension Service and other Territorial agencies are clearing up.

All dual citizens are urged to expatriate either from one nation or the other. As President David L. Crawford of the University of Hawaii stated: "The fate of dual citizens, or fence-straddlers, will probably be the most unpleasant if actual hostilities occur."

Y. B. Goto, assistant in agriculture extension, and Fuyuki Okumura, West Oahu county agent, have been leaders for years in the expatriation movement. At the present time they are giving additional time in the furthering of this movement.

The young Japanese who were born in Hawaii became dual citizens because their parents registered them at the Japanese Consulate at the time of their birth. They have

lived for years in this state without bothering to change their status, but now conditions are becoming unpleasant for them. It is encouraging to report that in recent months the number that have applied to be expatriated from Japan has increased enormously.

In still one other way the Territory of Hawaii differs from the mainland. Children of Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, and Korean parentage do not have the same background that mainland youngsters possess. They have not been brought up on the legends of George Washington and the cherry tree, Abe Lincoln studying by candlelight, or Bill Cody riding the pony express. They have not been unconsciously indoctrinated with the fact that people living in a democracy have the privileges of free speech, universal suffrage, and the choice of occupations.

By means of a special Americanization course, University Extension and 4-H Club members are taught this at regular monthly meetings. Besides learning about our Federal Government, the club members are shown the obligations and duties that citizenship entails. In other words, they learn that a good citizen is an active citizen who promptly takes part in all civic duties required of him.

Members of the Extension Service believe that a common background makes for a united people. They are doing all in their power to teach the young people of Hawaii the past history of the United States and make them proud to be citizens of the greatest Nation on earth.

Honored for Meritorious Service

Fourteen extension workers were honored for meritorious service in extension by their fellow workers in Epsilon Sigma Phi, the National Honorary Extension Fraternity, at the annual Grand Council meeting held in Chicago, November 12 with 80 delegates from 48 States, Puerto Rico, and Alaska present. Dr. T. B. Symons, director of extension in Maryland, presided as grand director.

The highest award given by the fraternity, the distinguished service ruby, was given to I. O. Schaub, dean of the school of agriculture and director of the extension service in North Carolina. Certificates of recognition at large were presented to the secretary-treasurer of the Grand Council, Madge J. Reese; Dean J. L. Hills, of Vermont; and George Banzhof, county agricultural agent in Milam County, Tex.

Others to receive certificates of recognition for which three States in each region were eligible to nominate candidates this year were: Tom M. Marks, county agent at large, Oklahoma; H. H. Williamson, director,

Texas; Bright McConnell, county agricultural agent, Richmond County, Ga.; Dr. Ruby Green Smith, State home demonstration leader, New York; Margaret Brown, State home demonstration leader, Pennsylvania; Dr. Joseph Cullen Blair, dean and director emeritus, Illinois; Thomas X. Calnan, county agricultural agent, Barnes County, N. Dak.; R. J. Baldwin, director, Michigan, Poultry Moore, poultry specialist, Idaho; Dr. Fabian Garcia, director, experiment station, New Mexico; Frank P. Lane, county agent leader, Wyoming.

Homecoming for Former County Agents

Highlights of the Michigan annual extension conference occurred during the twenty-fifth annual county agricultural agents' banquet when 45 men who formerly served as county agricultural agents sat down with the 75 now in service at an "All Michigan" products banquet. Origin of all the 48 items on the menu was within the State.

Seven men at one table constituted an unusual group. They represented all the men who have ever served in Antrim County in the county agent's office.

Response from men all over the United States followed invitations from the men now in county-agent service.

In annual meetings, the following elections were announced during the conference week:

Michigan Home Demonstration Agents' Association: Margaret Linsell, Kalamazoo, president; Mary Bullis, Allegan, vice president; Mrs. Margaret Reed, Jackson, secretary-treasurer—all reelected.

Michigan County Agricultural Agents' Association: Hans Kardel, Charlotte, president; L. R. Walker, Marquette, vice president; Gordon R. Schlubatis, Coldwater, secretary-treasurer.

Epsilon Sigma Phi, Alpha Psi chapter: R. L. Olds, Kalamazoo, chief; Olga Bird, East Lansing, assistant chief; A. B. Love, East Lansing, secretary-treasurer; Don Jewell, Beulah, annalist.

New Officers for Land-Grant Association

At the fifty-fourth annual convention of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities held in Chicago, November 11-13, 1940 the following officers were elected for 1941: president, F. B. Mumford of Missouri; vice president, A. G. Crane of Wyoming; secretary-treasurer, Thomas Cooper of Kentucky; executive committee, the president of the association, T. O. Walton of Texas (1941) chairman, C. E. Ladd of New York (1941), J. J. Tigert of Florida (1942), O. J. Ferguson of Nebraska (1942), C. E. Friley of Iowa (1943), T. B. Symons of Maryland (1943), E. G. Peterson of Utah (1944), and W. C. Coffey of Minnesota (1944).

Kansas Agent Takes Air Pictures

■ Airplanes can serve practical purposes in extension work as well as in transportation and war. One Kansas county agent who recently tried out the aerial method found that color photographs of his county as seen from above have proved to be powerful drawing cards for community meetings, and that they are effective in building public approval for the extension program.

The experimenter was Joe Smerchek, county agricultural agent of Sumner County. Mr. Smerchek's experiment came about through his acquaintance with James Herrick, a Wellington resident who owns a two-passenger cabin plane. One day in mid-August, Mr. Herrick took County Agent Smerchek for a 2-hour ride over the central part of the county, covering an area with a 10-mile radius. Mr. Smerchek took along his 35-millimeter camera loaded with color film. He snapped 17 photographs from aloft, getting pictures of farmsteads, contour planted sorghums, contour resodding of pastures, several general farm views showing field patterns and crop rotation lay-outs, views of a newly constructed and sodded football field (Agent Smerchek served as technical advisor on the sodding), the Wellington park and swimming pool, and several views of sections of the city.

The flight also gave the county agent a chance to make a field visit, for the plane landed briefly on a farm near Mayfield owned

by Mr. Herrick, and Agent Smerchek took a depth-of-moisture test to see if an alfalfa seedbed was ready for planting.

The airplane photographs were first used at a chamber of commerce meeting where the county agent discussed 4-H Club activities. After the program, the organization voted \$200 to support the county 4-H Club fair for 1941.

The pictures also are being used at a series of township farm bureau meetings. Attendance at these meetings has been greatly increased over previous years, and Agent Smerchek believes that much of the credit for that is due to the aerial photographs. At these meetings, the air views are used in combination with other local color pictures illustrating 4-H Club work, landscaping, bindweed control, forestry, and general scenic shots.

Mr. Smerchek is one of the many county agents who have become ardent believers in the use of natural color film. Although he exposed his first roll only last March, he already has a collection of 75 good local color photographs. The number is increasing steadily. Black and white photographs are not being neglected, for the agent carries two miniature cameras, one being loaded with black and white film. One of the cameras and an exposure meter belong to Mr. Smerchek. The other camera is the property of the county farm bureau.

Wisconsin Makes Film Strips

■ In May of 1939, district meetings of the county educational committee were held in the five soil-type areas of Wisconsin.

These meetings were attended by members of county educational committees which include in their membership, a member of the AAA county committee, the county superintendent of schools, and the county agricultural agent.

These meetings were called by the State educational committee to discuss and plan an educational program on agricultural conservation.

One of the subjects discussed was that of visual aids and of course, film strips came in for considerable discussion. As a result of the discussion it was apparent that film strips could serve a very useful purpose in encouraging conservation and soil-building practices.

The general opinion was that the problem was so nearly alike in each county that greater efficiency and less duplication of effort could be obtained by building up these film strips on an area rather than on a county basis.

The task of working out the general pattern of these strips was delegated to Forrest Turner, who, as a member of the Wisconsin

extension staff, has worked closely with the agricultural conservation program since its very beginning.

After each picture and script sequence had been worked out with the assistance of the county agent leader in each area, the material was passed on to subject-matter specialists and county agents for criticism and suggestions.

Final editing of readers, legends, and sequences was made by the extension editor's staff and the county agent supervisors. Help in editing and preparing the material for processing was given by the Federal Extension Service.

Photographs to illustrate the story were obtained from many sources, including county agents, extension specialists, Soil Conservation Service, and the Wisconsin Conservation Commission.

The films were used by county agents and county and community committeemen at many types of meetings, and were very enthusiastically received and considered very helpful.

In a good many counties these strips were used in meetings held in practically all communities as a part of the agricultural conservation educational program. It is likely

that these strips will be used again this winter for presentation to groups which have not already seen them.

Many Wisconsin extension people are taking 35-millimeter color photographs for use in 2-by 2-inch slides, and it appears likely that these will replace the black-and-white strips in many counties.

To Improve Living Conditions

Last year, home demonstration agents held 308 meetings in Maine in which 3,825 rural women discussed and classified the various areas within their communities, according to their opinion of prevailing living conditions. They, at the same time, supplied the data which made possible comparisons by townships of living conditions in all counties of the State. Furthermore, to aid in the improvement of these situations, the women in each community indicated the three items most needed to improve present living conditions.

One of the needs mentioned in 32 different communities was that of additional medical service. Through news releases, these needs were publicized and, as a result of inquiries, a list of these towns was supplied to 35 different doctors or nurses.

County Motion Pictures

Sixteen county agricultural extension associations in Pennsylvania have reels of 16-mm. local motion picture, and seven additional counties have partial reels. Most of this film is in color. Ten county agents have motion-picture cameras. Activities of 4-H Clubs, especially their round-ups, are filmed more than any other class of extension activities. Tours, field meetings, livestock extension projects, and method demonstrations comprised the next most popular type of subjects photographed in motion pictures. General agriculture of the county is the basic theme of four of these films. Every county which has local movie film also is developing a set of 2-by-2-inch color slides of extension work. In some counties movies were developed first and then the slides, but in most counties the slides came first. The conclusion drawn from observation to date indicates that as visual aids the local movie film and slides are complementary, not competitive.—George F. Johnson, specialist in visual instruction, Pennsylvania.

■ The establishment of ponds under the AAA program in Kansas makes irrigation available to farms. This has increased garden production. The use of these ponds has also permitted the most effective use of grassland in livestock production. The pond-building program in Osborne County, one of the central western Kansas counties, constructed 250 ponds in 1939; and for 1940, the county farm plans show a total of approximately 700 additional ponds.

Lespedeza for Defense

J. W. BURCH, Extension Director, Missouri

■ The products of the soil are an essential part of the defense of any nation. Recognizing the extent to which erosion control, maintenance of soil fertility, and profitable production of crops and livestock products are essential to the Nation's safety we readily understand the relation of lespedeza to national defense.

More than 166,000 Missouri farmers are growing some 5 million acres of Korean lespedeza. They are using this crop to provide supplementary pastures, hay, and seed, and as a soil builder.

In assisting in bringing about this rather remarkable result, the Agricultural Extension Service has worked in closest cooperation with the field crops department of the Missouri College of Agriculture and the ACP State committee. The activities of the Extension Service in helping to bring about this result have been many and varied.

The value of lespedeza in the cropping system of Missouri has been explained in virtually every county in the State at the annual soils and crops conferences. These conferences have been followed by local meetings conducted by the county agents—many of them on farms where lespedeza is being grown—trips to crops experimental fields at Columbia and elsewhere in the State, farm demonstrations, and publicity through the press, radio, and circular letters. In the early days of the crop, county agents assisted farmers in obtaining lespedeza seed.

The acreage mentioned above as devoted to lespedeza for the most part represents an addition to the acreage normally devoted to legumes. Such an addition has had, and is having, a profound influence on feed production, soil-erosion control, and fertility maintenance. What is happening on the individual

farms using this crop is illustrated by results obtained by the Missouri Experiment Station. At Columbia over a period of 4 years a combination of wheat and lespedeza pastured out completely gave 303 pounds of beef per acre or a corn equivalent of 48.3 bushels per acre. On adjacent land over an 8-year period in a good rotation, corn has averaged 21 bushels per acre.

At the Bethany Experiment Station, Korean lespedeza has proved to be almost equal to alfalfa in erosion control.

This crop has made profitable the farming of hundreds of thousands of acres of land in the State which otherwise was of marginal or submarginal grade. In so doing, it has played an important part in bringing about a trend toward more livestock on the farm, and, to a considerable extent, doing away with the effort on the part of many farmers to meet their interest and taxes by heavy grain cropping.

During the 25-year period from 1910-35 the trend of livestock production (meat, wool, and milk) was definitely downward. During the 5-year period, 1936-40, coincident with the expansion of lespedeza acreage, the trend in livestock production has been definitely upward in Missouri. It would seem logical to assume that our ability to produce grain (when and if necessary) is also definitely on the upward trend.

Thus, we see that through playing an important part in introducing lespedeza to the farmers of the State, the Agricultural Extension Service has contributed materially not only to the conservation of our natural resources but in adding to those resources. In this manner, the Extension Service has added materially to the defense powers of the Nation.

In each bimonthly 4-H Club meeting, club members will discuss, demonstrate, and study ways and means of improving themselves and also their associates. In public meetings of both adults and young people, 4-H Club groups will present citizenship programs. Also, through their club projects, elementary economics will be studied in order that rural young people will understand the situation as it exists today and probable changes that may occur in the future.

The theme of the 1940 4-H Club year, A Healthy Home and a Healthy Body, ties in closely with the 1941 theme of citizenship, as health, through proper nutrition and a healthy home life, makes for better citizens.

Big 4-H Club County Fair

A 4-H Club fair, which is a vital force in the county, is the result of cooperation between a newspaper editor, Charles Timothy Jewett; the Kiwanis Club of Anderson, Ind.; and the 4-H Clubs of Madison County, Ind.

In the old days, Madison County had a county fair, but for some reason this petered out and became little more than a carnival. Because some believed that a fair would be a real asset, the Madison County 4-H Club Fair was inaugurated. There, farmers and city people could mingle and learn more about the opportunities and resources in the county. The Kiwanis Club sponsored this fair. Started on a small scale several years ago, the fair in 1940 boasted 500 livestock entries, as compared to 350 the year before. This achievement is now considered one of the most outstanding performances of the year's 4-H program in the county.

"Our 4-H Club boys' and girls' Madison County Fair," says Editor Jewett, "has become one of the best county fairs in Indiana."

Seed Production in Oregon

The small seed production development work of the past 10 years in Oregon is still expanding. In 1939 small seed crops occupied more than 200,000 acres of Oregon cropland and brought Oregon farmers approximately \$5,000,000. This year the acreage was approximately 300,000. These small seed crops, largely soil conserving in nature, for the most part were grown on land which formerly produced wheat. Due to the fact that certain seed supplies from foreign countries have been shut off, the project became doubly important this year. During the fall of 1939 and in 1940, the Extension Service cooperated closely with the AAA in expanding the acreage of winter legume seed, Austrian winter field peas, and hairy vetch, marketed through a "grant of aid" program to southern farmers. The acreage planted for harvest in 1940 was 135,000 acres, practically double the acreage of these seeds grown the previous year.

4-H Club Members Learn About Citizenship

■ "We, who have just taken the pledge of citizenship, accept the opportunities and responsibilities that will be ours as young citizens of these United States of America. We will strive each day to live up to the obligations and responsibilities for which citizenship in a democracy stands."

These words will be repeated by thousands of New Mexico rural young people during 1941 when they take part in the 4-H Club citizenship ceremonial. The event is designed to enable young people to appreciate our

democratic way of life as a heritage to be defended with a spirit and faith based on a thorough understanding of all that is involved.

This ceremonial will be one of the goals and the climax of the 4-H citizenship program which will be carried out by community 4-H Clubs in more than 500 rural communities of the State this year. Uppermost in the minds of the 8,000 New Mexico 4-H Club boys and girls will be "Learning to be a better citizen by being one."

Postmaster Invited

A meeting of Federal agencies working in this area was found to be very much worth while. I invited all the agencies that I could discover in the area: Federal Forest Service, WPA, FLB, PCA, Farm Security, Post Office REA, ACP, Smith-Hughes teachers, and myself. We ate together and spent about 3 hours visiting. Many problems were brought out and much information exchanged.

I invited the Rogers City postmaster because it occurred to me that with all the mail (mostly franked) that we dump on the post office it might be well that they know more about the work we are all trying to do, and perhaps they might feel more like toting the mail if they knew more of the part they played in the scheme of things.—*Jack Brown, county agricultural agent, Presque Isle County, Mich.*

Cooperation Advertised

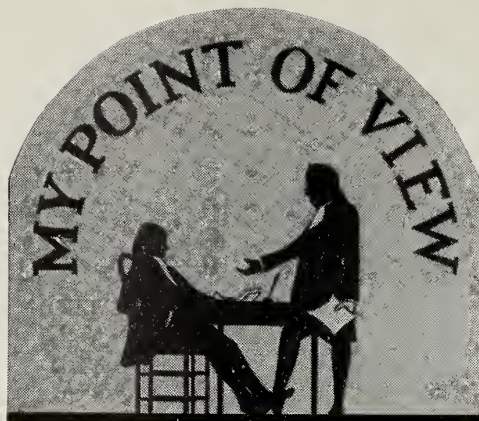
A plan for putting the cotton-mattress program over in a Negro community was told to me by Len G. Robinson, chairman of the Bake-well Colored Community Organization. Every family in the area made application for a mattress. When the cotton and ticking were delivered to his community, he called a community meeting. At this meeting he divided the people into four groups—the older women were known as tickmakers, the older men as cotton fluffers, the young men as mattress beaters, and the young women tuft seamstresses. He kept all the materials in the community house until the last mattress was complete. He packed the 40 mattresses together and called in the people, and had a discussion on what could be done by community cooperation, and gave each family its mattress.—*S. E. Mullins, assistant county agent, Hamilton County, Tenn.*

Contribution to Defense

National defense appears to us to consist of two parts; namely, military and naval preparedness against possible invasion, and the creation of an economic environment in which the majority of our people can earn a decent living which will provide them with the shelter and food necessary for health and vigor and the basis for feeling this country is worth defending.

The efforts of the Extension Service have always been directed toward these ends. Some of the specific things which we might mention are farm management work directed toward making it possible for farmers to increase their earnings and zoning work in northern Wisconsin directed toward securing the type of settlement which will reduce Government costs and result in the more efficient use of the resources of that region.

During recent months our extension specialists in agricultural economics have been attempting to give our farmers a basis for a better understanding of the economic envi-



This is a place where agents are invited to express their ideas and opinions about anything which seems important to them. Those things which please, bother, or help one agent in his work are just the things which prove valuable to other agents.

ronment in which they live. The plan used has been the publication of Economic Information for Wisconsin Farmers.

Last October the probable effects of the war on agriculture were discussed. During 1940 attention has been given to various ways of increasing the income of agriculture as a whole. The possibility of increasing farm income by adjusting production; by shutting out imports; by expanding our foreign markets and by securing higher prices from consumers has been discussed.

Efforts have been made to get the farmers to understand the problems of consumers, especially that vast group of city consumers whose problem, like that of the farmer, is low income. It was pointed out that there are great inequalities in income among the city consumers as well as between farm and city incomes. And the dependence of farm income on the total income of the city workers has been stressed.

In general, then, we feel that the continuation of the regular program of the Extension Service in its effort to make for a more satisfying life among farm people is the best contribution which the Extension Service in Wisconsin can make to the national defense under the present circumstances.—*W. W. Clark, associate director, Wisconsin, in a letter to Director Wilson, November 2, 1940.*

Fortified With Fact

Agricultural planning committees in 38 Montana counties are engaged in inventorying their agricultural problems and resources. In 11 counties doing intensive planning, community and county committees are seriously studying all problems which have a bearing on the relationship of population to resources. These include low incomes, tenancy, soil erosion, taxation, uneconomic units, farm credit, land use, and marketing.

In considering these problems and their interrelationships, much thought and speculation have been given to possible changes in the economic situation as a result of World War II, and while it has been impossible to formulate any very definite policies, yet it is believed our farm people are alert to the situation and therefore will be in a better position to meet any emergency. Likewise, as contrasted with the period following World War I, a better informed farm population, fortified with the farm program, will undoubtedly be better able to withstand the shock which is expected.

Since the planning work, as conducted in this State, is thoroughly democratic, it is a practical demonstration of how the process can be made to work for the common good. Such experience, if sufficiently widespread, will be an important factor in helping to maintain our democratic institutions and ideals.

It is also becoming increasingly apparent that farm people, because of their appreciation of the problems which lie ahead, are recognizing that they must think in terms of the welfare of their communities, the State, and the Nation if they are to prosper individually. This is a significant and hopeful trend.—*Horace G. Bolster, State extension land economist, Montana.*

■ More than 100 Iowa rural recreation leaders took a 5-day short course on music, drama, games, and hobbies. The school was sponsored by the Iowa State College, the American Youth Commission, and the State board of vocational education, for the purpose of making better use of recreational talent at rural meetings.

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IN BRIEF

4-H Assists Land Shift

To assist with the shift from unprofitable dark tobacco to beef cattle production, 4-H boys and girls in Kentucky are raising 1,100 beef calves and growing the feed to finish them for the market. In Todd County, club members bought 68 cows with calves at their sides. The calves were finished for the December market weighing 700 to 900 pounds. The cows have been re-bred to purebred bulls.

Safety in the Home

More than 2,800 families in California report making some change in the house to prevent accidents. "Safety in the Home," a team demonstration for either adults or 4-H Club members, was written by two home demonstration agents for the State 4-H convention at Davis. This demonstration has been repeated in many communities at meetings of men and women, 4-H Club meetings, and at home demonstration meetings. Check sheets have been filled out by 3,000 women at group meetings.

Credit for Gum Farming

A gum-farming program is under way in Lafayette County, Fla., initiated by the county land use planning committee. After studying the returns from turpentine timber leased to turpentine operators, the income from turpentine products sold, and the amount of farm labor available, the committee decided that some farmers could realize more from their turpentine timber by working it themselves. To do this, credit was needed, so the Farm Credit Administration was told of the study. The Production Credit Association agreed to finance farmers wishing to do gum farming, and credit was obtained from the PCA and local sources.

Pre-School Clinics

In the Maine communities where the pre-school conferences for physical examinations of children were held for the second or third time, the results of extension contacts were very apparent. In Winslow, Kennebec County, for example, where pre-school conferences have been held every year for several years, the children brought, with but two exceptions, were well, healthy, had good food habits, and, insofar as the parents could supply them, adequate diets. The improvement in the health and nutrition of these children over a

period of years is apparent, both in their records, which are kept from year to year, and in their appearance. The two exceptions were families who brought their children to a conference for the first time.

Special effort has been made during the past year to reach people outside the regular extension groups and assist them with nutrition problems. Pre-school clinics, held in co-operation with public health nurses and local doctors, have been the most effective means of contact. These, with the follow-up calls made on mothers who attended clinics, have resulted in many of these mothers attending other extension meetings.

Help With Subsistence Farming

Approximately 12,000 acres of land owned by the Sugar Centrals of Puerto Rico have been set aside for the use of day laborers employed at the Centrals to grow food for their families. These men are employed only part of the time and are faced with the problem of supporting their families the entire year on part-time wages. The use of a few acres of land per family has helped solve the problem. Extension agents have been active in helping with the planting plans for these families and in encouraging the canning and preserving of any surpluses. In addition to the sugar Centrals, many of the larger individual farmers in Puerto Rico are following similar practices with their employees.

Extension Agents for a Day

Each year the high school of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., sends out its senior class to take over all the public offices of the city for a day for the purpose of learning all they can of how services are being rendered. Six were assigned to the extension office of Chippewa County, three for the 4-H department, and three for the county agent. The forenoon was spent in explaining the history of extension and the program of work, and the afternoon was spent out in the county in practical work.

Feed-the-Family-First Program

The cooperative purchasing of garden seeds was supervised by the Farm Women's Bureau of Kanawha County, W. Va., last year, and 230 packages were sold to the home demonstration club members and to rural families interested in having better gardens. "We believe that having seeds available at a reasonable price has aided these 230 families in having better planned gardens and a greater variety of vegetables produced," said Home Agent Eleanor Bigelow, who had charge of the work. She distributed 200 garden plans and gave 3 talks emphasizing planning, fertilizing, and disease and insect control.

AMONG OURSELVES

■ CARL CONGER, county agricultural agent of Pawnee County, Kans., is convinced that a good picture printed in a local newspaper will get results. Noting that applications for assistance under the county's recently organized soil conservation district were coming in rather slowly, Conger took a photograph showing results of such erosion-control work on a well-known farm. Within 5 days after the picture appeared in a local newspaper, 12 applications from farmers were received at Conger's office, in contrast to the 1 or 2 a week which had been coming in previously.

■ BENNIE F. WILDER, home demonstration agent in Madison County, Fla., has been asked by the school board to serve as chairman of a county-wide committee to beautify the grounds of all school buildings in the county.

■ H. EARL YOUNG, age 61, State leader of farmers' institutes, at Purdue University, and for many years editor of various farm magazines circulating in the Middle West, died on November 14.

Born and reared on a farm near Mason, Mich., Mr. Young served as editor of the Indiana Farmers' Guide, the Farmers' Review Magazine, and Illinois Farmer Magazine.

He spent a year with the Extension Service of the United States Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C., and later served as secretary of the Illinois Farmers' Institute, Springfield, Ill.

In 1931 he was placed in charge of commercial and industrial gardens for the Governor's Commission on Unemployment Relief for Indiana, cooperating with the Purdue University horticulture department. In 1938, he was named State leader of Indiana Farmers' Institutes, in which position he was serving at the time of his death.

ON THE CALENDAR

Ninety-second Boston Poultry Show, Boston, Mass., January 15-19.

National Western 4-H Club Round-Up, Denver, Colo., January 20-25.

Convention of the National Wool Growers Association, Spokane, Wash., January 21-23.

Association of Southern Agricultural Workers Meeting, Atlanta, Ga., February 5-7.

4-H exhibit at annual convention of the American Camping Association, Washington, D. C., February 13-15.

Eastern States Farmers' Exchange Annual Meeting, Springfield, Mass., February 25.

Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show, Fort Worth, Tex., March 7-14.

WHEN your 4-H Club members and older young people step out and start farming on their own, they are going to be faced with the problem of when to use credit, what kind of credit to use, and where to get it. If they are going to farm successfully, they must also be able to market their products and purchase their supplies to the best advantage. Are you preparing them to meet these problems? You do not have to go it alone—the Farm Credit Administration has prepared circulars on cooperative credit and business organization especially for young people. Some of these are listed below.

Circulars discussing the sound use of credit—

ABC's of Credit for the Farm Family—Cir. 15
 Using Credit Instruments—Cir. 16
 The Credit Road to Farm Ownership—Cir. 18
 Short-Term Credit—A Good Farm Tool—Cir. 21
 The Profitable Use of Farm Credit—Cir. E-4

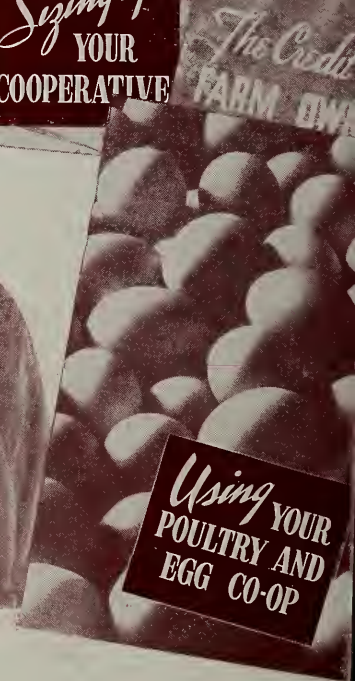
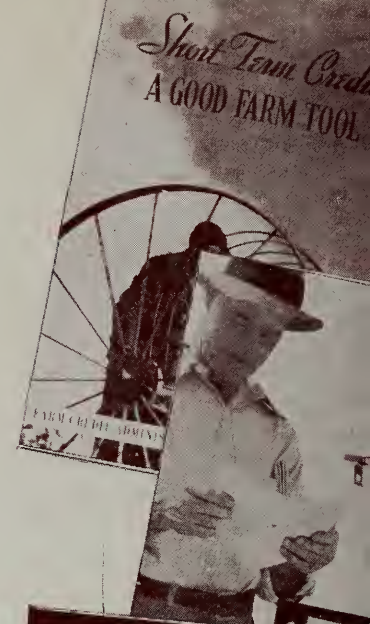
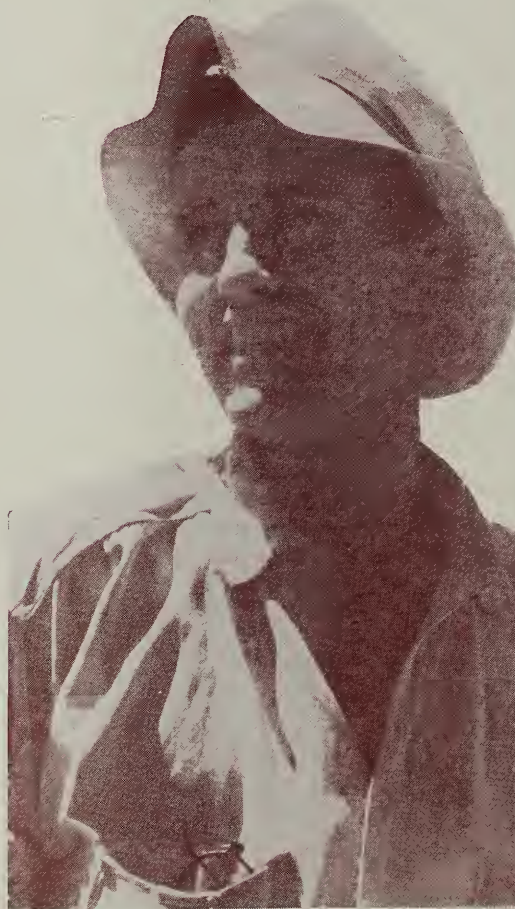
Circulars descriptive of services of Farm Credit Administration units—

Selecting and Financing a Farm—Cir. 14
 Federal Land Bank and Land Bank Commissioner Loans—Cir. 1
 Loans by Production Credit Associations—Cir. 3
 Loans to Farmers' Cooperatives—Cir. 6

Circulars discussing the operation and problems of local cooperative associations with which the farmers deal—

Using Your Co-op Creamery—E-6
 Using Your Livestock Co-op—E-7
 Using Your Co-op Elevator—E-8
 Using Your Co-op Gin—E-9
 Using Your Wool Co-op—E-10
 Using Your Purchasing Association—E-11
 Using Your Fruit and Vegetable Co-op—E-12
 Using Your Poultry and Egg Co-op—E-13
 Using Your Fluid Milk Co-op—E-14
 Insuring Through Your Farmers' Mutual—E-15
 Using Your Production Credit Association—E-17
 Sizing Up Your Cooperative—E-18
 Forming Farmers' Cooperatives—E-19
 Financing Farmers' Cooperatives—E-20
 Managing Farmers' Cooperatives—E-21
 Merchandising by Farmers' Cooperatives—E-22
 The Story of Farmers' Cooperatives—E-23

Circulars on Credit and Co-ops available for young people



Circulars listed may be obtained in limited quantities by writing to either the Farm Credit Administration of your district or to the Washington office.

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

U. S. Department of Agriculture
 Washington, D. C.